

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD SUMMARY

Wednesday, February 14, 2001

SENATE

Measures Introduced:

S. 322. A bill to limit the acquisition by the United States of land located in a State in which 25 percent or more of the land in that State is owned by the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Thomas

Pages S 1394-5

S. 324. A bill *to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, to prohibit the sale and purchase of the social security number of an individual by financial institutions*, to include social security numbers in the definition of nonpublic personal information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Shelby

Pages S 1394-96

S. 330. A bill to *expand the powers of the Secretary of the Treasury to regulate the manufacture, distribution, and sale of firearms and ammunition*, and to expand the jurisdiction of the Secretary to include firearm products and non-powder firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Torricelli

Pages S 1394, S 1403-06

S. 338. A bill to protect amateur athletics and combat illegal sports gambling; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Ensign

Pages S 1394, S 1423-24

S. Res. 21. A resolution directing the Sergeant-at-Arms to provide Internet access to certain Congressional documents, including certain Congressional Research Service publications, Senate lobbying and gift report filings, and Senate and Joint Committee documents; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Page S 1394

Measures Passed:

Patent, Copyright, and Trademark Laws Technical Corrections: By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. 12), *Senate passed S. 320*, to make technical corrections in patent, copyright, and trademark laws.

Pages S 1376-84, D 126

Adjournment Resolution: *Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 32*, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

Pages S 1437, D 126

Committee Meeting For Thursday, February 15, 2001:

Committee on the Judiciary: @ 10:00 a.m. *Business meeting to consider proposed legislation on bankruptcy reform. SD-226.*

Page D 129

Remarks:

Patient Protection Legislation.

The Judicial Conference of the United States, a nonpartisan, nonpolitical body headed by the Chief Justice, decided that cases involving medical judgment should go to State court. These types of cases have been traditionally resolved in State court. Federal courts, of course, are courts of limited jurisdiction. And these are not cases that should go to Federal court. Our bill does exactly what the Judicial Conference, headed by our Chief Justice, has recommended. It sends these cases to the place where they have traditionally been decided. [] In those limited cases where there is a dispute about the actual language of the contract, those cases go to Federal court. There are limitations contained in our bill about any recovery in Federal court. [] The only cases that go to Federal court, a court of limited jurisdiction, are cases involving pure interpretation of the contract--cases that have historically been decided in Federal court under ERISA..."

Edwards

Pages S 1368-69

Lessons to be Learned from The Wrongful Conviction of Earl Washington.

"...Mr. Washington was released from custody Monday after more than 17 years in prison, [] 10 years of that were on death row, [] after some new DNA tests confirmed what earlier DNA tests had already shown--he was the wrong guy. [] we have seen a shocking number of cases in the past 2 years in which inmates have been exonerated after long stays in prison, including more than 90 cases involving people who had been sentenced to death. [] Some States continue to stonewall on requests for DNA testing. They continue to hide behind time limits and procedural default rules to deny prisoners the opportunity to present DNA test results in court. They continue to destroy DNA evidence that could set innocent people free. [] I urge us to go forward and pass the Innocence Protection Act, supported by both Republicans and Democrats in this body and in the other body. This legislation addresses several serious problems in the administration of capital punishment. Most urgently, the bill would afford greater access to DNA testing for convicted offenders and help states improve the quality of legal representation in their capital cases. It also proposes that the United States Congress speak as the conscience of the Nation in condemning the execution of the mentally retarded..."

Leahy

Pages S 1374-76

HOUSE

Bills Introduced:

H.R. 614. A bill to make technical corrections in copyright law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Coble

Page H 393

H.R. 615. A bill to make technical corrections in patent, copyright, and trademark laws; to the Committee on the judiciary.

Coble

Page H 393

H.R. 616. A bill to *establish an Office of Management in the Executive Office of the President*, and to redesignate the Office of Management and Budget as the Office of the Federal Budget; to the Committee on Government Reform.

Horn

Page H 393

H.R. 618. A bill to *amend title 18, United States Code*, to increase to 5 years the period during which former Members of Congress may not engage in certain lobbying activities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Andrews

Page H 393

Bills Introduced (Cont'd.):

H.R. 619. A bill to allow certain individuals of Japanese ancestry who were brought forcibly to the United States from countries in Latin America during World War II and were interned in the United States to be *provided restitution under the Civil Liberties Act of 1988*, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Becerra

Page H 393

H.R. 638. A bill to *provide benefits to domestic partners of Federal employees*; to the Committee on Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Frank

Page H 394

H.R. 641. A bill to protect amateur athletics and combat illegal sports gambling; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Gibbons

Page H 395

H.R. 654. A bill to reduce fraud in connection with the provision of legal advice and other services to individuals applying for immigration benefits or otherwise involved in immigration proceedings by requiring paid immigration consultants to be licensed and otherwise provide services in a satisfactory manner; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Gutierrez

Page H 395

H.R. 655. *A bill to establish a commission to study the culture and glorification of violence in America; to the Committee on the Judiciary.*

Hastings

Page H 395

H.R. 664. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that the reductions in Social Security benefits which are required in the case of spouses and surviving spouses who are also receiving certain Government pensions shall be equal to the amount by which the total amount of the combined monthly benefit (before reduction) and monthly pension exceeds \$1,200; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Jefferson

Pages H 395-6

H.R. 671. A bill to expand the powers of the Secretary of the Treasury to regulate the manufacture, distribution, and sale of firearms and ammunition, and to expand the jurisdiction of the Secretary to include firearm products and nonpowder firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Kennedy

Pages H 396

H.R. 682. A bill to *amend the Hate Crime Statistics Act* to require the Attorney General to acquire data about crimes that manifest evidence of prejudice based on gender; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Maloney

Page H 396

H.R. 689. A bill to *amend title 5, United States Code*, to ensure that coverage of bone mass measurements is provided under the health benefits program for Federal employees; to the Committee on Government Reform.

Morella

Page H 397

Bills Introduced (Cont'd.):

H.R. 693. A bill to ban the manufacture of handguns that cannot be personalized, to provide for a report to

the Congress on the commercial feasibility of personalizing firearms, and to provide for grants to improve firearm safety; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Pascarell

Page H 397

H.R. 696. A bill to permit expungement of records of certain nonviolent criminal offenses; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Rangel

Page H 397

H.R. 697. *A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act and the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to eliminate certain mandatory minimum penalties relating to crack cocaine offenses; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.*

Rangel

Page H 397

H.R. 705. A bill to subject the United States to imposition of fees and costs in proceedings relating to State water rights adjudications; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Simpson

Page H 397

H.R. 715. *A bill to require a study by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to develop a methodology for measuring the cost of living in each State, and to require a study by the General Accounting Office to determine how Federal benefits would be increased in each State if the determination of such benefits were based on such methodology; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.*

Tierney

Page H 398

H.R. 718. A bill to protect individuals, families, and Internet service providers from unsolicited and unwanted electronic mail; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Wilson

Page H 398

H.R. 721. *A bill to ensure that the business of the Federal Government is conducted in the public interest and in a manner that provides for public accountability, efficient delivery of services, reasonable cost savings, and prevention of unwarranted Government expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Reform.*

Wynn

Pages H 398-9

H.J. Res. 20. A joint resolution *proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States* with respect to the right to life; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Oberstar

Page H 399

H.J. Res. 21. A joint resolution *proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States* respecting the right to a home; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Rangel

Page H 399

Bills Introduced (Cont'd.):

H. Con. Res. 32. *Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate; considered and agreed to.*

H.R. 559. John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse in Boston, Massachusetts:

The House passed H.R. 559, to designate the United States courthouse located at 1 Courthouse Way in Boston, Massachusetts, as the "John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse."

Pages H 334-43, D 128

Suspension-H.R. 524. Electronic Commerce Enhancement Act:

The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 524, to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to assist small and medium-sized manufacturers and other such businesses to successfully integrate and utilize electronic commerce technologies and business practices, and to authorize the National Institute of Standards and Technology to assess critical enterprise integration standards and implementation activities for major manufacturing industries and to develop a plan for enterprise integration for each major manufacturing industry by a ye and nay vote of 409 yeas to 6 nays, Roll No. 14.

H 343-8, D 128

H. Con. Res. 32. President's Day District Work Period:

The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 32, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

Page H 349, D 128

Committee Meeting:

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 333, amended, Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2001; and H.R. 256, to extend for 11 additional months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code is reenacted.

Page D 129

Remarks:

Childproof Handgun Act. (H.R. 693)

Pascrell

Page H 327

A Viewpoint On The Supreme Court Case Of NY Times V. Tasini.

McGovern

Pages E 182-3

Social Security And Medicare Lock-Box Act of 2001. (H.R. 2)

Jackson-Lee

Pages E 185-6

Riley

Pages E 194-5

Davis

Page E 200

Osteoporosis Federal Employee Health Benefits Standardization Act. (H.R. 689)

Morella

Page E 187

Remarks (Cont'd.):

Ban The Use Of The Internet To Obtain Or Dispose Of A Firearm.

Mink

Page E 196

Introduction Of H.R. 614, The Copyright Technical Corrections Act Of 2001.

Coble

Page E 199

Introducing ***H.R. 615***, The Intellectual Property Technical Amendments Act Of 2000.

Coble

Page E 200

Next SENATE MEETING: Thursday, 10:00 a.m., February 15, 2001.

Next HOUSE MEETING: Monday, 2:00 p.m., February 26, 2001.

OLA: S. Schwarz (Smith), J. Homanich